

PA-L 353

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ITEM : 981 () info about specific individual request:

TOP/SUBTOP (1): guyana/people's temple
TYPE OF DOC.: issue
CREATE DATE: JAN-25-78
UPDATE DATE: JUN-05-78
AIDE: WB PCD:

As part of the traditional and internationally sanctioned protection services, officers of the American Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, periodically visit the People's Agricultural Temple located at Jonestown, Guyana. These officers have been free to move about the grounds and speak privately to any individuals, including persons who were believed by their family and friends to be held there against their will. It is the opinion of these officers, reinforced by conversations with local officials who deal with the People's Temple, that it is improbable anyone is being held in bondage. In general, the people appear healthy, adequately fed and housed, and satisfied with their lives on what is a large farm. Many do hard, physical labor, but there is no evidence of persons being forced to work beyond their capacity or against their will.

Should you have a specific individual about whom you want information, please provide the name of the person and the person's date and place of birth to the Office of Special Consular Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. During the next visit to the People's Temple by an officer of the American Embassy, that officer will attempt to speak privately with the individual in question, convey your concern, and report to you.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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